

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 3 and 7 through 12 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Clutterbuck et al. According to the Examiner, the reference teaches “ a lens where the pressure is reduced” and a toric lens having at least two curves of *different slopes*.” (Emphasis added).

The claims, as amended, are directed to a lens in which there is at least one iso-thickness vertical profile in a mid-peripheral area of the lens and in which the peak pressure is reduced. The claims also are directed to a lens one surface of which has at least two curves of different slopes with a junction therebetween, the slopes of the curves at the junction are equal and wherein a peak pressure is reduced.

Even if one accepts that Clutterbuck et al. disclose reduction of peak pressure, the reference fails to teach or disclose a lens with an iso-thickness vertical profile. Additionally, the reference fails to teach or suggest least two curves of different slopes with a junction therebetween, the slopes of the curves at the junction are equal. Rather, according to the Examiner, the reference teaches only that there are two curves of differing slopes.

Given that the reference fails to teach or disclose at least one material element of the claims, that is it fails to teach or disclose either an iso-thickness vertical profile in a mid-peripheral area of the lens or two curves of different slopes with slopes equal at the junction, the reference cannot be found to anticipate the claims. Therefore, withdrawal of the Section 102(b) rejection of the claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, are in condition for

allowance. Entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the objections and rejections, and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

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